

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 – 5:30 P.M.

Vice-President T. Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: F. Aleckson, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, K. Lien, J. Stalheim, T. Tenneson, and D. Thompson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Kari Lejcher, Karla Hulne, Gwen Kidd, Lizzie Clark, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement was read aloud.

Official Oaths of Office were read and signed by Fern Aleckson, Blaine Koxlien, and David Thompson.

K. Lien made a motion to nominate F. Aleckson as President. P. Kujak made a motion to nominate T. Tenneson as President. J. Stalheim moved to close nominations. Motion was made by K. Lien and seconded by J. Stalheim that voting be done by paper ballot. Motion carried. Voting results: T. Tenneson - 5 votes and F. Aleckson – 2 votes. Troy Tenneson will serve as President.

J. Stalheim made a motion to nominate F. Aleckson as Vice-President with K. Lien seconding. F. Aleckson made a motion to nominate P. Kujak with T. Tenneson seconding. Voting results: P. Kujak – 5 votes and F. Aleckson – 2 votes. Perry Kujak will serve as Vice-President.

T. Tenneson made a motion with second by D. Thompson to nominate F. Aleckson as Clerk. Motion by K. Lien to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for F. Aleckson. Motion was seconded by J. Stalheim and passed with all members voting yes. Fern Aleckson will serve as Clerk.

Motion was made by J. Stalheim with second by P. Kujak to nominate K. Lien as Treasurer. Motion by F. Aleckson to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for K. Lien. Motion was seconded by J. Stalheim and passed with all members voting yes. Keith Lien will serve as Treasurer.

Motion by K. Lien with second by F. Aleckson to approve the following Committees for 2016-17:

Finance/Property/Transportation: P. Kujak, K. Lien, B. Koxlien. **Long-Range Planning/Safe Facilities:** T. Tenneson, J. Stalheim, D. Thompson. **Board Policy Review:** F. Aleckson, J. Stalheim, D. Thompson. **Teacher Negotiations:** F. Aleckson, B. Koxlien, T. Tenneson. **Support Staff Negotiations:** P. Kujak, K. Lien, J. Stalheim. **Compensation Model:** F. Aleckson, K. Lien, P. Kujak. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by K. Lien with second by D. Thompson that the regular 2016-17 Board of Education meetings be held on the third Monday of each month at the Blair-Taylor United Campus Board room at 5:30 p.m. except the April and October meetings will be held on the fourth Monday. Three listening sessions will be held at the Taylor Community Center on the second Mondays of October, January, and April from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

No public comments.

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by P. Kujak to approve the March regular and closed minutes and bills for the month of March. March bills include payroll checks #57976-57993, payroll advice of deposits #24411-24622, money wires #90-92, #239, #462-463, #3312-3313, expense checks #15259-15268, #56460-56578, and #500284. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

The main change in The Standard's short-term disability plan is that it does not pay disability benefits in addition to an employee's sick leave benefits, but pays disability benefits only in lieu of sick leave which is the normal practice for all companies.

Action Items:

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by F. Aleckson to have students make up the third snow day on Friday, June 3, 2016 with 1:00 p.m. dismissal, K-6 teachers will make up day on June 15 for ELA training, and 7-12 teachers will make up day in June to work on curriculum. Motion passed.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve the second reading of Policy 342.3 - At-Risk, Alternative Education Options. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by P. Kujak to approve one-year contract for 2016 season with Western Wildcats for facility use, reviewable on annual basis. Motion passed by roll call vote with five members voting yes, K. Lien and D. Thompson voting no.

After discussing options for improving the practice football field, motion was made by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to table the practice football field needs, have a soil analysis done by Agronomy Team, and obtain bids for a well. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by F. Aleckson to approve Peggy Austad's retirement (after 22 years) effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously. Board members expressed their appreciation for her many years of service to our school district.

Motion by K. Lien with second by J. Stalheim to approve Alvera Norby's retirement (after 40 years) at the end of 2015-16 school year. Motion carried unanimously. Board members expressed their appreciation for her many years of service to our school district.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by T. Tenneson to approve Joan Woyicki's retirement (after 20 years) at the end of 2015-16 school year. Motion carried unanimously. Board members expressed their appreciation for her many years of service to our school district.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by J. Stalheim to approve 2016-17 CESA #4 service contracts with the exception of Special Education Director services until further discussion. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien that J. Stalheim serve as the CESA #4 annual convention representative in June. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Thompson to approve Tim Ausavich's resignation (after 14 years) at the end of 2015-16 school year. Motion passed unanimously. Board members expressed their appreciation for his years of service to our school district.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to move to closed session at 7:55 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1) (c) to discuss personnel concerns, needs in Special Education, and compensation model. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve the March financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

No Student Council report.

Legislative Report by J. Eide: The law restricting school referendums failed. This law would have forced schools to wait one year to hold another referendum if their first referendum did not pass. Law that mandates CPR classes to be taught in health classes passed.

J. Eide's Report: Discussion at recent safety plan meetings with several community people has been about reacting during a worst case scenario. Practice fire drill will be conducted on Friday with radios and no fire trucks, but the fire department will be involved with a practice fire drill on Tuesday. Looking to do a full-scale drill in September in which everyone would evacuate. Board members felt that an unannounced fire drill would be more realistic, but that can be traumatizing for young children. Kevin Lisowski's timeline for the Military Wall of Service project is tight with work scheduled for the weekends of May 14 and 21, and then have La Crosse Sign Co. install the listing of names about May 23rd. If work gets completed as scheduled, he would like to have an unveiling on Memorial Day. One-day ALICE training for staff would cost \$5,000 and could possibly be done in August. School boards of four-school consortium will meet on Wednesday, May 11th at 7:30 p.m. in Arcadia with departure time of 6:45 p.m. WASB Spring Academy Workshop will be held at CESA #4 on Tuesday, May 10th at 6:00 p.m. with 4:45 p.m. departure time. F. Aleckson and D. Thompson will attend. Discussed concrete issues that should be done in specific areas of the elementary site as well as in front of the middle/high school entrance. Board members requested that J. Eide get bids for both concrete and asphalt of the specified areas.

L. Halverson's Report: Staff changes for next school year: Cheri Omernick is changing to a new Literacy Coach position, Baleigh Kehe will move to sixth grade, Kari Lejcher will move to first grade. Will post open kindergarten position. Staff did ELA benchmark training during April 15 in-service. As ELA work continues, he has received positive comments from an enthusiastic staff. Next thing to work on will be the implementation of Next Generations for our science curriculum. Letters for summer school, which is scheduled for July 11-29, were sent home last week. Congratulations to the fifth grade O.M. team, who will be competing at world in Ames, IA at the end of May! Their coaches are Sandy Serum and Kristie Dingledein.

D. Eide's Report: Mandy Swenson, M.S. Language Arts teacher, will attend ELA training with K-6 teachers in June. She attended their April 15th in-service and found this collaboration time enjoyable and beneficial. 15 students will compete at state Solo Ensemble contest on May 7th. 12 students competed at state FBLA with two advancing to nationals in June. Agronomy team advanced to state for the third consecutive year. Several students presented at the regional history event with two advancing to state. Blair-Taylor hosted the Middle School Large Group Music Festival on April 21st for seven schools with over 500 students attending. Special thanks to K. Hulne for all her hard work in organizing this first-annual event that was such a success! Prom will be held on April 30th with grand march at 8:00 p.m. May 22 – Baccalaureate and Senior Awards Night. May 28 – Graduation at 1:00 p.m. June 2 – 8th Grade Recognition at 2:00 p.m. Final preparations are being done for upcoming senior exit interviews. Board members signed up for empty slots. Senior portfolios will be available for preview prior to the interviews.

Discussion Items:

Karla Hulne presented a proposal from Z Best Tours for a six-day band trip via coach bus to Florida in June 2018 for up to 45 students and 5 adults and a minimum of 30 students. Trip includes Disney workshop with possible performance in accordance with Magic Kingdom's national standards. Trip would include students who are currently in grades 7-10. Cost for trip is \$899 for students - quad occupancy and \$999 for adults – double occupancy. Melrose-Mindoro and Arcadia Schools have used this same tour group for their band trips.

WEA Trust is phasing out of long-term and short-term disability insurances. M3 Insurance recommends The Standard which has different pricing options depending whether it is a three-year, two-year, or one-year contract.